

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



December 3, 2007

Reply to Attn of. General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

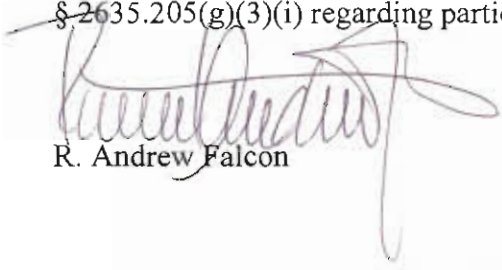
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the Washington Space Business Roundtable Luncheon, December 6, 2007

On December 6, 2007, the Washington Space Business Roundtable (WSBR) will host and sponsor a luncheon at The University Club in Washington, DC at 11:30 a.m. Sponsors of the WSBR include Aerojet, Analytical Graphics, Ball Aerospace, Berliner, Corcoran & Rowe; Booz Allen & Hamilton, Futron Corp., Iridium, Telenor Satellite Services, and Spacenet, Inc.. WSBR's focus is on the growing world of satellite communications, launch services, and remote sensing.

Representatives of the aerospace industry, trade associations, the media, congressional staffers, Congress, and other Federal agencies will attend the luncheon. Approximately 300 people have been invited to the luncheon and 80-90 are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the luncheon, which includes all food and beverages, is \$50.00 per person. I find that the WSBR event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g).

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. Patti Grace Smith, Associate Administrator, Commercial Space Transportation at the Federal Aviation Administration will be the guest speaker. She will be speaking on the Future of Space Commercialization. Attendance at the luncheon will allow NASA representatives to discuss the Vision for Space Exploration, space commercialization, and NASA programs with the other attendees. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect WSBR or a majority of all of its sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect WSBR or its sponsors, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.


R. Andrew Falcon